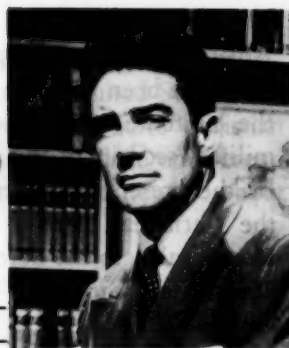


THE *Dan Smoot Report*

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DAN SMOOT

LATIN AMERICA

Any picayune politician, anywhere in South or Central America, can command a following by merely tweaking the nose of Uncle Sam. Uncle Sam is big and rich and strong in a hemisphere where others had his same natural advantages. South and Central America were discovered and colonized long before North America was; but nations south of the border, although possessing the same abundance of natural resources that is envied of the world in North America, remained weak and poor and unstable.

Educated people in Latin America know this; but they are human; they do not want to find in themselves or in their institutions the reasons for their weakness and instability; they would rather put the blame on us.

Baiting Uncle Sam was not always politically rewarding in the days when Americans elected to high office men of character who felt a responsibility to defend the interests and honor of the United States. Since the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt, our Presidents and State Department, and many of our Congressional leaders, have behaved as if afraid or ashamed to use the power and prestige of the United States to protect its own interests. Franklin Roosevelt initiated this attitude. Truman continued it. Under Eisenhower, our "policy" toward Latin America has sunk to unbelievable depths. Nowadays, a communist or other rabble-rousing politician in Latin America need only to call a mob into the streets and whip it into violence with anti-yankee harangues: the U. S. President and the Secretary of State make conciliatory statements and offer concessions—open the doors to the U. S. Treasury, saying, *please tell us what you want*.

Every major political move we make in Latin America helps the communist program of turmoil and conquest—as clearly and consistently as if planned for that purpose.

The kindest excuse that can be found for Roosevelt, Truman, and Eisenhower is that they wanted to prove to our sister republics, and to the world, that we are a beneficent power, wanting to help, not to hurt.

Viewed even in this kindly light, the Roosevelt-Truman-Eisenhower policy toward Latin

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America has been a tragic failure. Never before has there been as much Latin American hatred of the United States as today. Never before has the military security of this nation been so endangered by the presence of enemy power and intrigue in the Caribbean area—an area more important, strategically, to the defense of our homeland than our nation's capital is.

We have burdened our own citizens with taxes and sacrificed our vital national interests in an effort to "help" Latin American nations, but have we helped them? No, we have encouraged, strengthened and subsidized the native political instability and the alien communist subversion which are bringing indescribable misery upon the people of Latin America.

The way for us to earn Latin American friendship is not to put Latin Americans on the dole or to fawn and grovel like an overgrown moron every time they spit on us.

The United States is the dominant economic, political, military, and cultural influence in the western hemisphere. Hence, it is obvious that our government can best promote stability in the area by protecting the national interests of the United States.

After a Venezuelan mob—which the Venezuelan police made no perceptible effort to control—pelted Vice President Nixon with garbage and spat in his face and on his wife and on his flag, Nixon came home simpering that he had had a "wonderful trip." The Venezuelan government made a vague expression of regret, and our government did nothing. What if Nixon had abruptly cancelled his trip because of these outrages upon the honor of his nation; and Eisenhower had ordered the sternest diplomatic and economic pressures on Venezuela until the government there investigated, arrested, and brought to public trial all of the leaders and identifiable participants in that mob?

When mobs in any Latin American nation (whether they are beyond the control of the local government or have the silent, unofficial support of the government, as was the case in

Panama during the November, 1959, riots) violate the dignity of our flag, or molest our official properties, or endanger the lives or rights or property of our citizens—the United States government should act instantly, without swagger or brutality, but with stern dignity and with whatever force necessary (military, if economic and diplomatic pressures are not enough) until proper apologies and reparations have been made and until the perpetrators have been identified, indicted, and brought to public trial.

Such action on our part would be mightily discouraging to anti-United States mob activity in Latin America and would, for that reason, be a major contribution to the peace, security and prosperity of all Latin American people. The seeds of hate, which must be sown to stir up anti-United States mobs like those which greeted Nixon throughout Latin America in 1958 and those which rocked Panama in 1959, are dragon's teeth: they sprout a thousandfold, creating violence which begets more violence—until turmoil and bloodshed are endless.

Nearly all Latin American nations are volatile societies, perpetually on the brink of explosion. Communists, who feed on hate and violence, have been stirring the cauldrons there for 40 years. For the past 25 years, we have aided the communists and local demagogues in Latin America by serving as their whipping boy—playing the coward's role of wincing and paying off every time we are prodded. The most helpful thing our government could do for Latin America would be to exert influence for law and order. We could do that with justice, and within the limits of recognized international custom, by merely protecting our own interests—scrupulously keeping all of our treaty obligations with Latin American nations, and holding them to the same terms. By thus removing ourselves as a profitable scapegoat for rabble-rousers, we would eliminate most of the sinister rabble-rousing which destroys peace and prosperity below the border. With law and order and respect for the United States prevailing, private United States capital would pour in to fill

Latin America's economic needs.

When a local dictator arises in a Latin American nation — like Trujillo in the Dominican Republic and, formerly, Batista in Cuba — our policy should be strict non-interference, as long as he keeps that nation's treaty obligations with us and permits no violations of the rights of our nation or of our citizens. We have no mission to reform the world. What other nations do is no business of ours, as long as they do not violate our interests or threaten our security.

But when the dictator who seizes power in Latin America is a tool of the communists — as Castro in Cuba obviously is — we are bound by the promise of our own Monroe Doctrine to protect this hemisphere from him, because all communists are agents of the Russian government. The Russian government is specifically one of the old world powers which our Monroe Doctrine promised to protect the western hemisphere against. More than that, all communists are agents of an evil international conspiracy, backed by enormous and ruthless military power, whose primary, announced purpose is the destruction of the United States. Unless we have lost our manhood and our national will to survive, there should never be any argument or a moment's hesitation about what we should do when a communist agent takes over a government in Latin America: we should take whatever steps necessary to remove him. In all cases, the *steps necessary* (if we would act in time) would be nothing more than diplomatic and economic sanctions, without any use of military force.

Under Roosevelt, Truman, and Eisenhower our attitude toward Latin America has been the reverse of what it should be. Communists hate local dictators like Batista. Batista, by our standards, was perhaps a hateful man; but that is not why the communists were against him. They hated him because they could not use him for their purposes. 'Liberals' in the United States invariably hate the same people whom communists hate, and like those whom communists like. Hence, there was

loud "public" condemnation for Batista, "public" support for Castro, here in the United States; and our government (as Secretary of State Christian Herter admitted in a press conference on December 10, 1959) was sympathetic and hopeful about the Castro rebellion.

Our official hopefulness about Castro's communist revolution remained unruffled through June and July, 1958, when Castro rebels kidnapped 29 American sailors (stationed at our Guantanamo Bay Naval Base) and held them as hostages for almost six weeks, while our government pleaded and wheedled for their release.

What if we had sent a detachment of U. S. Marines into the Cuban hills to drag those Castro punks out by their beards and turn them over to the government of Cuba with demands that they be prosecuted under Cuban law for violating the rights of American military personnel — rights guaranteed by treaty agreements between Cuba and the United States? All patriots throughout Latin America would have applauded our action, and Cuba today would be a close and valued friend of the United States.

Thanks to the influence of Milton Eisenhower, we extended diplomatic recognition to Castro's communist regime in January, 1959, as soon as Batista was driven out. Immediately, Castro started seizing American property, without compensation. What did our government do? It entered negotiations to give Castro more economic aid to assist him in his "agrarian reforms." As late as August 17, 1959, when Castro's atrocities against his own people, his communism, and his hatred of the United States were known to everyone (except, perhaps, the head of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, who still says that Castro has brought real "democracy" to Cuba) this item appeared in the cautious *U. S. News & World Report*:

"Fidel Castro is described as making progress in efforts to have U.S. taxpayers reimburse American owners of Cuban land that is to be seized and turned over to tenants. The plan to finance

'land reform' will be called 'U. S. aid to relieve distress in a neighboring country.'"

As late as December 10, 1959, Secretary of State Christian Herter, telling the press about our difficulties with Castro, was (as all experienced observers recognized) obliquely promising Castro great increases in economic aid, if Castro would just quit embarrassing the administration in Washington with hate-inciting speeches about the United States.

By appeasing and helping Castro, we have encouraged him in his seizure of private property. This has dried up the flow of United States capital to Cuba. Before Castro, Cuba ranked in sixth place among the nations of the world receiving the most investment capital from the United States. The economy of Cuba — the welfare of the people, really — is dependent on United States investing, managing, and spending in Cuba.

In helping Castro, we have hurt not only Cuba, but all of Latin America (as pointed out in "A Cuban's Viewpoint" below): private investors know that if it can happen in Cuba it can happen anywhere in Latin America. Hence, the flow of private development capital to all South and Central American nations has virtually stopped.

* * * * *

AND THAT'S OUR STAND TODAY

On July 13, 1959, Manuel Urrutia, President of Cuba, speaking in Havana, said:

"(Communists) are doing horrible damage to Cuba . . . trying to create a second front against the United States and in favor of Russia."

On July 14, 1959, Major Pedro Luis Diaz Lanz (who was Commander in Chief of the Air Force of the Cuban Government, under Fidel Castro, until June, 1959, when he publicly denounced Castro as a communist, and fled to the United States) testified before the Internal Security Sub-

committee of the United States Senate. Here are excerpts of questions and answers from the transcript of his testimony:

Senator James O. Eastland (Dem.) of Mississippi, Subcommittee chairman: Did you hear Castro, Fidel Castro, make a statement about his methods?

Major Diaz: Oh, yes. Privately I heard from him a lot of things . . . things like:

"I am going to introduce in Cuba a system like the Russians have, even better than the Russian system; . . . I am going to take now the land from the people who was with the former Government. Later on I am going to take the land of everybody;" . . . And "some day the banks will disappear." . . .

Mr. Sourwine: Is the Castro Government infiltrated by communists?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir; sure.

Mr. Sourwine: What persons in the Castro Government are communists?

Major Diaz: Well, of course, including Fidel Castro. . . .

(At this point, Major Diaz named a long list of Cuban military men and others he identified as communists.)

Mr. Sourwine: Major Diaz, is it true that the word "God" was stricken out of the new Cuban Constitution?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: Do you believe there is any danger that Castro and the communists in his Government are using the plea of a fight against dictators to cover up a communist operation against other Latin-American countries?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: While you were head of the Air Force did you obtain information about the establishment of indoctrination schools in the Army and in the Air Force?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sourwine: Did communists have key positions in these schools?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sourwine: Do you know of any instances

where a man was punished by Castro without having committed any crime?

Major Diaz: Well, sir, there is a captain who was in an investigation of the communist activities in Cuba during the former Government and before that, too. He was a man who had a lot of knowledge about the communists, not only in Cuba, but out of Cuba, too. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: This was a man who had been for many years in charge of anti-communist activities for the Cuban Government?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sourwine: And he was shot without a trial?

Major Diaz: Yes.

Mr. Sourwine: Do you have any knowledge of Russian agents in Cuba under the Castro Government?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sourwine: When did they come?

Major Diaz: About May, I think. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: Do you have any information about the presence of an unidentified submarine in Cuban waters?

Major Diaz: Yes, sir. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: You think Raúl Castro received weapons that were brought to him by submarine?

Major Diaz: Yes. . . .

Mr. Sourwine: Since Castro took over in Cuba, are changes being made in the insignia on military equipment in Cuba?

Major Diaz: Yes A red star put in vectors.

Mr. Sourwine: Red Star painted on military vehicles?

Major Diaz: Yes It is a communist insignia, sir. . . .

At a press conference on July 15, 1959, President Eisenhower was asked to comment on Major Diaz's testimony. The President said:

"Well, of course, he says that; there is no question that's what his testimony said.

"Now, such things are charged, and they are

not always easy to prove, and the United States has made no such charges. The United States is watching the whole area — the Caribbean area is in a state of unrest. The OAS (Organization of American States) has moved into — to the extent of asking for a meeting for the Foreign Ministers to go all through this situation and see what should be done. The United States expects to co-operate with the OAS, and that's our stand today."

On October 21, 1959, Major Diaz, in a plane which took off from a private airfield in Florida, made a "pamphlet" bombing run over the city of Havana — showering the city with anti-Castro leaflets. Castro went into a hysterical rage, claiming that the United States had sent the plane and that bombs had been dropped—all of which was an obvious lie; but Castro ranted for several days, and called a mass meeting of one million Cubans to protest the "yankee atrocities." Castro's televised tirades against the United States were more vicious than the stuff that comes out of the Kremlin.

Our government made embarrassed denials and embarrassed apologies. The Attorney General ordered an FBI investigation, and the President promised that steps were being taken to prevent any future "illegal" flights from the United States to Cuba.

On November 4, 1959, United States authorities arrested Major Diaz and put him in jail at Miami, holding him for extradition to Cuba, where he was charged with murder.

A CUBAN'S VIEWPOINT

In 1959, Dr. Emilio Nunez Portuondo (who was formerly, for seven years, Cuba's delegate to the United Nations and was President of the Security Council of the United Nations) began editing and publishing *Latin American Events* (a weekly newsletter, 1028 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.). After a trip through Latin America, Dr. Portuondo said, in the November 9, 1959, issue of his newsletter:

"The difference between what really exists in Latin America and what is published about it in the newspapers and magazines of the United States is truly amazing As a result of this discrepancy, the United States has lost a great number of friends and sympathizers and the ranks of its enemies has swollen to unprecedented magnitude. . . .

"Those friends remaining loyal to the U. S. A. have practically lost all faith in the United States of America as the world leader and defender of the peoples south of the Rio Grande against the massive infiltration of international communism. . . .

"The capital of Cuba has become the Mecca of Latin American communists since Fidel Castro came to power eight months ago. Not one day passes without the arrival at . . . Havana of communist leaders from all over the world, for the purpose of receiving instructions and financial help from the many Russian and Chinese specialists who have set up shop and home in Cuba, who secretly form a part of the Cuban government and pass upon international and also internal policies.

"Important communist leaders take off from Cuba daily . . . with large sums of money and precise political instructions (and) . . . armed with Cuban passports. Cubans also depart daily to carry the communist poison to the peoples of America. . . .

"Cuban diplomatic missions in most of the Latin American states have become centers of conspiracy against the governments to which they are accredited. . . . This is well known to all Latin America and the people are surprised that the government of Washington ignores it, and they add that if this ignorance is feigned the danger of the situation is greatly increased. . . .

"(Castro's) laws of confiscation without compensation . . . and agrarian reform which swallows local as well as foreign properties without payment, always making use of violence, have totally stopped the inflow of foreign capital to Latin America for short and long-term investments. Investors fear, and rightly so, that the communist wave will engulf other countries as well. . . .

"The communists of all Latin American countries are waiting to see how the foreign powers, particularly the United States, will react. If the

communists see that all of this can be done without running any risk to the guilty regime, as has happened in . . . Cuba, they will immediately begin a vigorous campaign of confiscation of all foreign properties in every country. . . .

"The propaganda will be very tempting to the ignorant masses of the population, which . . . constitute a majority of the people. . . .

"Latin America has become a zone of greater danger to the security of the United States than Berlin, Formosa, and the captive nations of Central Europe. To hide this fact from the people of the United States is a serious error. Never has the . . . United States been in greater danger than now, in the face of the intensified movement to establish communist or pro-communist governments in Latin America From any part of Cuba directed missiles can be launched against Cape Canaveral (missiles center in Florida), and the Pentagon in Washington.

"Plans for the establishment of bases to launch missiles have been prepared by Russian and Hungarian engineers who have been in Havana for months. Anti-communists and other friends living in the area of the United States have warned about these preparations. But when they see the indifference . . . of Washington . . . and . . . the lack of information on the part of the people of the United States . . . while witnessing . . . the great strides forward taken by international communism in Latin America, they lose faith and, naturally, strength, to pursue the fight that already seems lost. . . .

"Another invasion is being prepared by the communists of Fidel Castro against the Republic of Panama. Boats and men stand ready some place in America. Now they will try to use parachutists and airplanes against a country virtually without defenses. They also plan to take radio and television stations by surprise.

"All of the maneuvers against Panama are aimed at the Canal which greatly interests the Soviet Union. They hope . . . to establish a communist government in Panama. . . .

"It is well known that Fidel Castro and his comrades used the United States and Mexico in their campaign to overthrow the previous regime. In the United States public collections were held to help the cause of Fidel Castro. From its shores expeditions departed with arms, munitions, food and men in support of the rebels. Volunteers

from the United States joined the ranks of Castro's Army. . . .

"A majority of the U. S. press effectively assisted the rebel cause with an avalanche of publicity Cuban exiles in the United States and Mexico freely carried out their activities against the government of Cuba. They held public meetings (and) publicly set up revolutionary committees which called for the violent overthrow of the government at Havana. Nothing happened to them. . . ."

MORE FRIENDSHIP

On December 14, 1959, George Todt, in his column for the San Fernando (California) *Valley Times*, said:

"Testimony before the senatorial committee looking into dope traffic . . . has very conclusively put the finger on our neighbor to the south (Mexico) as the prime mover of illicit drugs into our area. . . .

"Recently I was . . . amazed when California's Attorney General Stanley Mosk (and even more

recently the U. S. Attorney in El Paso, Texas, James E. Hammond) cried out against the immoral position of our own Department of State in 'going along' with the vicious practices of dope smugglers in Mexico because State has indicated it might harm our 'good neighbor' policy with the Mexican government if we don't do so. . . ."

* * * * *

CONGRESSIONAL FUND

During 1960, many of you — our readers — will ask whether members of the national Congress receive this *Report* regularly. Some of you will say the *Report* should be required reading for our national law makers. A few will offer to make a personal donation (and get other donations) to guarantee that every U. S. Senator and Congressman receives every issue.

We will reply that we started such a mailing three years ago, that it costs a great deal of money, and that we welcome your assistance.

Some of you who made the suggestion and offer of help will forget to send a contribution. A few

If you do not keep a permanent file of *The Dan Smoot Report*, please mail this copy to a friend who is interested in sound government.

DAN SMOOT,
P. O. Box 9611, Lakewood Station
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CITY AND STATE

will send a contribution for one year, but never remember it thereafter.

We will receive from our readers a large number of small contributions for our Congressional Fund. They will be small, because most of our subscribers do not have enough deflated dollars to cover their own *needs* — and their voracious government's *luxuries*. The total of all contributions to our Congressional Fund in 1960 will — if this year is like 1959 and 1958 — meet only a small portion of the actual expense of carrying 540 U. S. Congressmen and Senators on our subscription list for the year. The editor of the *Report* will make up the deficit.

We know all of this from past experience. We also know that we could get more contributions to our Congressional Fund if we "promoted" it right.

Last year, a subscriber — learning how inept we are as money-raisers — said we ought to get some millionaire to underwrite the whole expense of our congressional mailings; but he didn't tell us which millionaire.

We respect money-raising, but it *is* out of our

line. Our purpose in publishing this *Report* is to *sell a product* — a research and writing service intended to furnish you with information which you have neither time nor facilities to obtain for yourself: intended to arm you with facts and arguments which you can use in influencing and informing others who are either indifferent to, or ignorant of, the political and economic issues vitally important to the freedom and security of all Americans.

We think this service is important to all Americans — especially to Congressmen and Senators whose time for study is often more limited than yours, and whose lack of information and understanding is obviously dangerous to the future of this nation.

The *Dan Smoot Report* will be sent to *all* members of the Congress, and to as many teachers and students as our funds can finance during 1960. If you wish to join us in making this service possible, we believe you will be doing something worthwhile — and we will deeply appreciate your help.

* * * * *

WHO IS DAN SMOOT?

Dan Smoot was born in Missouri. Reared in Texas, he attended SMU in Dallas, taking BA and MA degrees from that university in 1938 and 1940.

In 1941, he joined the faculty at Harvard as a Teaching Fellow in English, doing graduate work for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the field of American Civilization.

In 1942, he took leave of absence from Harvard in order to join the FBI. At the close of the war, he stayed in the FBI, rather than return to Harvard.

He served as an FBI Agent in all parts of the nation, handling all kinds of assignments. But for three and a half years, he worked exclusively on communist investigations in the industrial midwest. For two years following that, he was on FBI headquarters staff in Washington, as an Administrative Assistant to J. Edgar Hoover.

After nine and a half years in the FBI, Smoot resigned to help start the Facts Forum movement in Dallas. As the radio and television commentator for Facts Forum, Smoot, for almost four years spoke to a national audience giving both sides of great controversial issues.

In July, 1955, he resigned and started his own independent program, in order to give only one side — the side that uses fundamental American principles as a yardstick for measuring all important issues.

If you believe that Dan Smoot is providing effective tools for those who want to think and talk and write on the side of freedom, you can help immensely by subscribing, and encouraging others to subscribe, to *The Dan Smoot Report*.